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Intelligent Staffing Solutions

January 25, 2002

Ms. Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

As a recruiter with more than 20 years in the business, I have observed the impact Microsoft products have had on business and industry, and in particular on small business. In the early days of computers, only very highly paid "computer gurus" could use the technology of the day. Recruiting and hiring these people was an expensive proposition, so much so that most small businesses had to do without.

Because of the innovation and "user-friendly" products of Microsoft, small businesses today can hire someone right out of high school to use software, which enables them to compete with much larger companies. Because we have access to the latest software and hardware at affordable prices, we have been able to develop a reputation in the marketplace and are frequently called on by many of the Fortune 100 companies to conduct National and International searches for them. Without the access to the affordable technology we use this would not be possible.

One reason Microsoft and other computer and software makers have been so successful, in my opinion, is because they have been allowed to operate in a free marketplace, unencumbered by unnecessary government restrictions. Their success has in turn allowed us to be successful. I suggest to you that a timely settlement of the antitrust lawsuit is in the best interests of everyone, especially business.

Sincerely,

David Blue
Manager